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Public to have say on changes to council tax

STRUGGLING Rugby households on the lowest incomes would not have to pay any council tax under new measures proposed by Rugby Borough Council (RBC).

RBC is consulting the public on a simplified council tax reduction scheme, which the council says would be easier to administer and simpler to claim.

Proposed changes to the scheme, which provides support to the lowest income households in the borough, would increase the maximum amount of support available from 85 per cent of their council tax bill to 100 per cent - meaning some households will not have to pay the tax at all.

The proposed changes also aim to simplify claims for households on Universal Credit.

Currently, minor changes in the amount of Universal Credit claimed trigger a review of council tax reduction, leading to confusion on the amount of council tax due.

The new scheme will introduce discount bands, leading to fewer changes in the support provided during the year.

War pensions and benefits for carers and the disabled will continue to be disregarded when calculating a claimant's income.

The council estimates around 84 per cent of claimants - 2,770 households - will be better off under the new scheme, and around five per cent will be worse off, with 11 per cent seeing no

change. The proposals also include provisions to award exceptional hardship payments to households who will be worse off, should they need it.

Coun Ish Mistry, Deputy Leader of Rugby Borough Council, said: "The new, simplified system will provide more support to eligible residents and reduce significantly the number of changes to an award during the year."

"Most eligible households will be better off and our council tax team will have to issue many fewer updated council tax bills - freeing up time for them to spend on other enquiries."

"I look forward to seeing what residents and partners think of the proposals."

His Liberal Democrat counterpart Coun Bill Lewis said supporting the most vulnerable residents was key.

He added: "Providing a simplified system, allowing residents more certainty on their bills, is also important. We welcome this chance to consult with our residents to see if this new council tax reduction scheme meets their needs."

Consultation on the proposed scheme is now open, and will close on November 19. If taken forward, the proposals will be considered at a meeting of the full Council and would come into effect from April 1.

Visit www.rugby.gov.uk/counciltaxreduction for more information, and to take part in the consultation.



Drumming up a crowd - the lantern parade lit up the town centre.

STEP INTO THE LIGHT: 'UNITY and joy' brought Rugby together as thousands came to the town centre to celebrate Diwali on Sunday (October 12).

The free open-air community event featured a lantern parade, food, stalls, festive lighting, family entertainment, and music and dance performances.

Celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains across the world, Diwali - also known as the Festival of Lights - symbolises new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and light

over darkness.

Co-organiser Coun Ish Mistry, Deputy Leader of Rugby Borough Council, said: "The event truly highlighted Rugby's diverse and inclusive community, which lies at the very heart of the town's identity. The sense of unity and joy was palpable throughout the celebrations."

"Rugby is a special place because of its exceptional people, whose spirit and commitment make such community events possible and memorable."

Turn to page 13 for more.



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LEFT: Simon Pegg returned to Stratford College where it all began. He took a tour and held a Q&A. RIGHT: The actor, comedian and screenwriter met current students and offered advice for those looking to pursue a career in the film and television industry.



Simon Pegg is now a familiar face to cinema-goers across the world thanks to his role in the Mission: Impossible franchise starring alongside Tom Cruise - from left Simon Pegg, Rebecca Ferguson, Tom Cruise and Ving Rhames in 'Mission: Impossible - Fallout'.

Back to the start for film star Simon

HOLLYWOOD actor, writer and comedian Simon Pegg made a special return to Stratford College - the place where his hugely successful career began.

The actor, comedian and screenwriter, who studied at the college from 1986 to 1988, toured the campus to see how it had changed since

his time as a student before sitting down with performing and production arts and media students for a Q&A session in the Gordon Vallins Theatre. He shared stories from his college days, and offered advice on forging a career in the creative industries.

He said: "By some sheer chance, there was a fund in the village I lived in that was set aside for children who

wanted to go into the creative arts, a grant for £1,000. My mum, bless her, scrimped and saved, and I came here and lived with a family nearby.

"I had the best years of my life here - it was so formative and inspirational. I found my tribe and people I had been looking for my entire childhood and so began an incredible process of learning."

Simon, whose career includes self-penned cult classics such as Shaun of the Dead and Hot Fuzz to blockbuster franchises like Star Trek and Mission Impossible, was shown the college's modern creative facilities, including its TV studio, theatres, and rehearsal spaces, before stepping back into the Gordon Vallins Theatre, where his passion for acting first took shape.

The theatre was the only performance space at the college during Simon's days as a student. It was named after Gordon Vallins, the lecturer who taught him and inspired generations of young performers. Earlier in the day, Simon reunited with his former tutor.

Simon continued: "Find somewhere like this, somewhere that has these kinds of facilities and enthusiasm, and come here. This is such an incredible space. When I was here, we only had this theatre, and now you guys have a TV studio and three different performance spaces.

"Colleges like this are vital because they don't consider the performing arts, or art of any kind, any less than academic fields. There's such a pressure to achieve academic excellence that performing arts is sometimes seen as a hobby subject and it's not. "For people that want to go into this business, this is an invaluable foundation. It's a perfect place to go before you go to drama school or university because you'll get to those places with a brilliant foundation going forward. It was such an amazing experience for me both academically and socially.

"I am so impressed with the facilities... I might come back here and shoot something."

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See page 29

Shopkeeper sold large cannisters of nitrous oxide

A SHOPKEEPER in Rugby borough sold a Class C drug 'on a commercial scale' from his shop near a primary school and a children's centre.

Sethukavalar Ramasethu, the owner of Long Lawford Store in the same street, has been sentenced at Coventry Crown Court to 20 months in prison suspended for two years, and ordered to complete 180 hours of unpaid work. He was also handed a legal bill of £7,920.

At a previous hearing, Mr Ramasethu 55, of Holbrook Road, Long Lawford, pleaded guilty to one offence of supplying nitrous oxide and one offence of possession with intent to supply nitrous oxide.

A young undercover Trading Standards Officer working for Warwickshire County Council (WCC) bought a large canister of the substance – also known as laughing gas – from the store.

Trading Standards was acting on information from Warwickshire Police that the store was selling the gas, and an 18-year-old had been



Sethukavalar Ramasethu sold large canisters of nitrous oxide from his Long Lawford shop.

hospitalised with burns to his throat and airways after allegedly inhaling it.

While there was no evidence that the nitrous oxide in that case had been sold by Ramasethu, there was reasonable inference as he had accepted he was selling it to young people.

Following the undercover purchase, police and Trading Standards officers raided the store and discovered 32 nitrous oxide canisters.

The shopkeeper was found to have been organising the buying and selling of large canisters on a commercial scale, knowing they would be consumed for their psychoactive properties, that doing so was harmful, and to make a financial gain.

Coun Michael Bannister, WCC's portfolio holder for

customer and localities, said: "The harmful sale of nitrous oxide concerns our communities. Our Trading Standards Service took decisive action to both seize the nitrous oxide and prosecute the seller, protecting local residents and especially young people."

His Honour Judge Barry Berlin, presiding, stated that it had been known for a long time that nitrous oxide was dangerous, that the defendant was in possession of large canisters of the product – not the small silver bottles often seen littering streets – and his shop was adjacent to a Sure Start children's centre and primary school. He added that Ramasethu was very lucky to be walking out of court.

In mitigation, Sarah Taylor, representing Ramasethu, said her client had not been in trouble for 24 years, had been naive, and was extremely remorseful. She added her client's wife had health conditions, that he had put his family under a great deal of stress and that they relied on him.

Report drug-related crime to police by calling 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Fight to help shop stay open

A POPULAR children's clothing shop in Rugby is at the heart of a community crowdfunding campaign to keep its doors open.

After more than 30 years in business, Eliza Doolittle has closed its doors due to the retirement of its owner.

The Keep It Rugby Community Interest Company (CIC) – established to support the town's independent shops and preserve the high street – has launched a crowdfunding campaign to raise £6,000 to relaunch the Albert Street shop.

The CIC, which has already taken Rugby Unwrapped, Rugby Bicycle Library and La Belle Boutique under its wing, was established in 2024 after founder Mark Thomas passed by the latter store during its final days of operation and decided to take action.

Mark said: "When independent shops disappear, so too does the individuality of a high street.

"Once the shutters go down, it becomes harder to keep our town centre thriving. The choice before



Mark Thomas hopes to reopen Eliza Doolittle through a crowdfunding campaign organised by his Keep It Rugby Community Interest Company.

us as a Rugby community is simple: we act together, or we watch our high street fade.

"The town centre is the pulse of any town, and through community action, Rugby can prosper once again. It's been a tough time, but the support we've already seen from the community gives me hope.

"A donation to this fundraiser isn't just about helping shops pay their bills, it's also about supporting local businesses. It's about identity, community, and

proving that Rugby can hold onto the things that make it unique."

Keep It Rugby CIC is also planning what Mark describes as 'innovative fundraising opportunities to create lasting change for the town centre'.

And if the Eliza Doolittle takeover does not go ahead, the CIC will redirect the funds to support its broader town centre projects.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/46bxkb97> to donate to the crowdfunding campaign.



Staff at Barnardo's Rugby Outlet Store at the shop's Book Nook.

Charity opens new concept store

A ONE-OF-A-KIND charity shop has opened in Rugby.

All products at the Barnardo's Rugby Outlet Store are priced at £5 or less.

The store at Triton Park in Swift Valley stocks clothing, accessories, toys, games, books and more, including many brand-new items with tags. It also features

a dedicated children's 'Book Nook', a cosy reading corner where children can discover a new favourite book from the in-store library.

Jonathan Cage, online operations manager for the children's charity, said: "We are thrilled to bring this new concept store to Rugby.

"Not only does it offer exceptional value for fam-

ilies, but every purchase supports Barnardo's vital work with children, young people, and families across the UK. Come along, grab a bargain, and help make a difference."

The store is holding a grand opening celebration on Saturday (October 18). It is open seven days a week, Monday to Saturday, 9.30am-4.30pm; and Sunday, 10am-4pm.



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Charity ride pedal power tally goes past £80,000

CYCLISTS from across the Midlands came together in Coventry for the latest staging of a much-loved charity bike ride that broke new fundraising ground.

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

Proceeds from this year's Starley Sportive amounted to nearly £10,000 – taking the overall total raised since the event began in 2013 past the £80,000 mark.

The funds will be split between long-time partners Zoe's Place Baby Hospice Coventry and University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire, as well as Nuneaton BMX Club – a first-time beneficiary.

The Deeley Group Charity Trust donated £3,500 towards the total after joint managing director Eleanor Deeley visited Nuneaton BMX Club last May to celebrate the club's addition to the list of Starley Sportive beneficiaries.

Eleanor was touched by the community spirit at the club, which used the donation to buy new bicycles.

BBC Radio CWR presenter and

media personality Vic Minett got this year's Sportive under way – just days after supporters of the event had promoted the ride as contestants on the radio station's popular Snake Escape quiz.

Event founder Ian Court, general secretary of Coventry Road Club, said he was blown away, not just by the sums of money raised, but by the turnout on the day.

He said: "What started as a small community initiative back in 2013 has grown into something truly special."

"When I started the Starley Sportive 12 years ago, I never dreamt it would go on to raise more than £80,000 for local good causes and be as successful as it is today."

"Hundreds took part in the ride and many more turned out to wave off the riders at George House in Canley, headquarters of long-time event supporters the Deeley Group.



Event founder Ian Court was 'blown away' by the turnout on the day.

"Reaching £80,000 is a milestone we're incredibly proud of, and it wouldn't have been possible without the passion of everyone who rides, donates or helps behind the scenes."

Cyclists of all ages took on one of three routes available on the day, each varying in length and difficulty, to continue the Sportive's ambition to be both challenging and accessible.

Edward Hudson, business development manager at Deeley Group, said: "We're delighted to continue

supporting such a fantastic local event.

"Not only does it raise vital funds for charities doing amazing work in our community, it also brings people together in a positive and healthy way."

"Seeing the fundraising total climb beyond £80,000 is testament to the dedication of Ian, Coventry Road Club and the riders themselves. We want to keep pushing forward and have already set our sights on breaking through the £100,000 mark."

Organisers hope to encourage even more participants to saddle up for the 2026 event, which will coincide with the Deeley Group's 90th anniversary.

Ian added: "The sense of community spirit on the day is what makes this event so special."

"We can't wait to welcome new faces next year and to keep raising funds for causes that matter most to the people of Coventry."

"Who knows – we may even have another fundraising milestone to celebrate next year."

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Gross misconduct claims are proven against ex-officer

A DISGRACED former Warwickshire Police officer who had an inappropriate relationship with a vulnerable woman he met through work would have been dismissed had he not resigned, a disciplinary panel has ruled.

Gross misconduct allegations against ex-Detective Sergeant Paul Whitehurst were found proven after a two-day hearing organised by Warwickshire Police, which followed five investigations by the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC).

The IOPC concluded he had a case to answer for gross misconduct in four of those cases, which also included allegations relating to improper images found on his work phone.

The former officer, who resigned in May 2024, was found by the disciplinary panel to have breached police professional standards of behaviour for authority, respect and courtesy, and for discreditable conduct.

The hearing heard Whitehurst met a woman in a bar who he recognised from previous contact through his duties. They started exchanging

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

messages, and by February 2020 he had formed an inappropriate relationship with her.

Evidence gathered by IOPC investigators indicated the relationship continued until September 2020 when the woman raised concerns about him to his line manager – at which point, Whitehurst disclosed the relationship to police.

The IOPC began investigating following a conduct referral from Warwickshire Police in November 2020. But despite the officer being instructed by superiors not to contact the woman, he continued to send her messages and go to her home.

Det Ch Insp Paul Sartoris, from Warwickshire Police's Professional Standards Department, said: "The harm caused by Whitehurst's misconduct will have a lasting impact upon the victim and our thoughts remain with them.

"His actions represented a profound breach of public trust and professional standards, and such conduct is utterly incompatible with the oath taken by officers."

IOPC director Emily Barry said: "When police officers abuse their position for a sexual purpose, particularly in respect of vulnerable people, such behaviour represents a fundamental betrayal of the public's trust and the values for which the police service stands.

"Such conduct amounts to serious corruption, and in DS Whitehurst's case it is all the more reprehensible given he worked in the force's anti-corruption unit, and before that in the professional standards department.

"He would have been acutely aware of the need to maintain professional boundaries with members of the public, and yet he chose to cross that boundary in full knowledge of the woman's vulnerabilities from the outset.

"There is no place in policing for this kind of behaviour and quite rightly he has been held accountable for his actions."

Other allegations proven against the officer concerned improper use of his work mobile which was examined and found to contain 714 inappropriate images including some of topless women, videos with explicit sexual content, and offensive jokes about domestic violence



Gross misconduct allegations against ex-Detective Sergeant Paul Whitehurst were found proven after a two-day hearing organised by Warwickshire Police.

and misogyny.

It was also found proven that he had deleted WhatsApp from the mobile in order to frustrate the investigation into his activities.

An accelerated gross misconduct hearing in June 2024 concluded that, had Whitehurst not already

resigned, he would have been dismissed for matters unrelated to the IOPC's investigations.

He was also barred from future employment with the police service.

The outcome of the misconduct hearing is subject to appeal.

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Faldo praise is just par-fect for Debbie in big TV thank-you

A FUNDRAISING hero from Warwick was surprised with a thank-you on national TV from golfing great Sir Nick Faldo.

Keen golfer Debbie White has a rare condition called Usher Syndrome that causes hearing and progressive vision loss, but that has not stopped her raising nearly half a million pounds over 30 years for Fight for Sight's pioneering eye research.

As a result, the 60-year-old was selected for a televised One Big Thank You from on BBC One's The One Show.

The setting for Debbie's big surprise was The Betfred British Masters, hosted by multi Major championship winner Nick at The Belfry in Sutton Coldfield.

Nick was being interviewed on stage in front of a large crowd with Debbie initially oblivious sitting in the front row.

The conversation on stage turned to golfers with sight loss and "a special lady who has raised a lot of

by Philippa Mingins

money". Debbie then realised they are talking about her.

Nick invited Debbie to join him on stage, congratulated her on her fundraising and asked her about her sight loss and love of golf before presenting her with a special engraved golf club.

He shared with her video messages from her family, friends, the Fight for Sight team and One Show presenter Roman Kemp.

Nick said: "What Debbie has been doing is absolutely incredible and when The One Show asked me to play this little surprise on her, I jumped in."

Debbie said after the surprise: "It was a massive day. Meeting Nick Faldo and being presented with the golf club and seeing all the videos of all the lovely messages from everyone."

"It was just wonderful. Thank you so much Fight for Sight and The One Show and to everyone involved."

"It was such a huge surprise, which was tough at the beginning as I like to know what's going on. It meant so much to me and it will spur on my efforts to raise funds for vital eye research."

As head of the Warwickshire Fight for Sight Committee, which is a volunteer role, Debbie has worked tirelessly to raise funds. As well as an Annual Golf Day, she has organised and taken part in sky dives, zip wires, cycling challenges, gala dinners and night walks.

Debbie is an avid golfer who played competitively with a handicap of 11 until her deteriorating eyesight caused her to pause playing.

But with characteristic determination, Debbie has since joined England and Wales Blind Golf and won her first competition in April this year. She is also hoping to play in the Scandinavian Blind Golf Open next year.

Fight for Sight fundraiser Debbie White with golf legend Nick Faldo at The Belfry.



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Police appeal after burglary

POLICE have released a CCTV image of two people they would like to speak to following a burglary in Leamington.

Police said a house on Telford Avenue was broken into sometime between 3.30pm on Tuesday September 30 and 4.30pm the following day.

Several computers, computer games and accessories were taken.

Anyone who knows these two people should contact Warwickshire Police via their website or by calling 101.

Police want help to identify these two men.



Take a break, drivers warned after M40 crash

"TAKING a break when driving, especially at night, can be the difference between life and death."

That is the warning from PC Craig Pearson, one of Warwickshire Police's serious collision investigators, after a man was jailed for causing the death of a passenger in his van on the M40 near Warwick.

It happened in the early hours of the morning in May 2024 when Legard Swaby was driving from London to Birmingham. The investigation led by PC Pearson showed the van crashed into the back of a lorry at 91 miles per hour with no attempt to brake or steer.

The passenger suffered

by Philippa Mingins

catastrophic injuries and died later in hospital.

Swaby claimed he was trying to wake the passenger so he could take a turn at driving at the time of the smash.

Police enquiries showed the circumstances were consistent with fatigue.

PC Pearson added: "Our investigation showed Swaby drove past four service stations where he could and probably should have stopped for a break.

"Had he taken the opportunity to take a break this tragedy may have been avoided."

Swaby, 41, of Washwood Heath Road, Birmingham, was jailed for two years and seven months after plead-

ing guilty at Warwick Crown Court to causing death by dangerous driving.

He was also banned from driving for more than six years.

As many as a fifth of crashes are estimated to be caused by driver fatigue, with most fatigue-related collisions occurring on motorways and dual carriageways. This is probably because of lack of stimulation for the driver and the monotonous nature of this type of driving.

And research suggests that driving when tired can be as dangerous as drink driving.

Collisions due to fatigue have a high risk of causing death or serious injury because often the driver does not brake before crashing.

Man faces sentencing over gun

A MAN from Warwick is set to be sentenced after a gun and ammunition were found at his home.

Stefan Fenyes was arrested by armed National Crime Agency (NCA) officers at Tachbrook Park Drive in March.

Police said his address was searched and a self-loading pistol with magazine and eight rounds of ammunition was discovered, together with an array of other weapons and survivalist guidebooks.

The 46-year-old was arrested and taken into custody where he was questioned by NCA officers, and was later charged with possessing a prohibited weapon, the importation of a



Officers seized a self-loading pistol and ammunition from an address in Warwick.

prohibited weapon and the possession of ammunition.

He was set to be sentenced at Birmingham Crown

Court this week, having pleaded guilty to possession of a prohibited firearm and ammunition.

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WHERE THINGS FOR YOUR GARDEN WON'T COST YOU THE EARTH

A vigil will be held at Coventry Cathedral Ruins on November 14 to mark the 85th anniversary of the Coventry Blitz. Picture by Aaron Law

Service and vigil set to mark dark hour in city's history

A MOVING civic service and vigil will be held to mark the 85th anniversary of the Coventry Blitz.

Coventry Cathedral and Ruins will host the event on Friday November 14.

The theme of the civic event is 'remembering well to move forward' - offering a moment of reflection and an opportunity to think about how to work towards peace and reconciliation in the future.

The service, which starts at 5.30pm, will be led by the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry.

It will include contributions from Coventry schools, faith leaders, and choral pieces.

Guests from Germany will join the service via video link for the National Gathering of the Community of the Cross of Nails in Münster, Germany.

Following the service, civic guests and service attendees will move into the iconic Cathedral Ruins as two sirens sound at 6.55pm to mark the exact time of the air raid in 1940.

This will be followed by a two-minute silence and an opportunity for people to pay their respects or take a moment to remember those who suffered on the fateful night in 1940.

The event will close with the performance of a specially commissioned Choral Piece 'Litany of Reconciliation' by Ben Ponniah, and a peal of the cathedral bells.

Coun Abdul Salam Khan, Deputy Leader of Coventry City Council, said: "The 85th anniversary of the Coventry Blitz is a major date in the city's history and event calendar, and we are proud to be jointly hosting a civic event with the cathedral, timed specifically to coincide with November 14

"Sadly, although the number of people who lived through and remember the terrible events have reduced with each passing year, it's only right as a city we continue to remember all those who lost their lives and suffered the trauma of November 14 and in the aftermath.

"We are welcoming people to join with us in being part of a moving and poignant service to mark the anniversary and vigil, alongside civic guests, and faith leaders in our community.

"This period in our history also showed how, as a city, an amazing sense of community spirit and resilience came to the fore and this still remains today, along with a strong sense of civic pride.

"Coventry will always remember and continue to work for a better future."

Reverend Kate Massey, Canon

for Arts and Reconciliation at Coventry Cathedral said the night of November 14, 1940 was a night of devastation for the city and the cathedral - but also the beginning of 'something remarkable'.

She said: "The people of Coventry committed not only to rebuilding their city but also to rebuilding their relationships with those who were their enemies. Our city and our cathedral became known globally in the years that followed for our work in reconciliation.

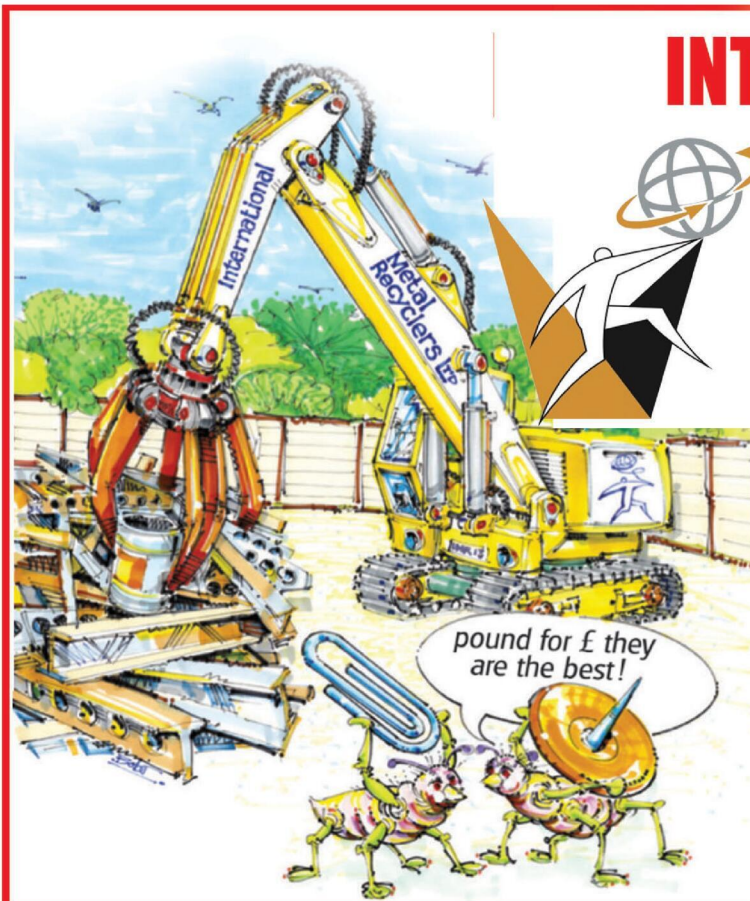
"On this 85th anniversary, we pass on the baton from the generation who made that first decision for peace to a new generation of Coventrians.

"As we remember, we allow our city's story to inspire us to continue the work of reconciliation in a world that needs healing and hope."

The public are welcome to attend the civic service in the Cathedral and the Vigil in the Cathedral Ruins. Both are free, ticketed events.

Visit www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/events/coventry-blitz-85th-anniversary-service for tickets. A limited number of tickets will also be available in the cathedral's Gift Shop.

A wider programme of events to mark the Coventry Blitz 85th anniversary will take place in the lead-up and during the anniversary weekend.



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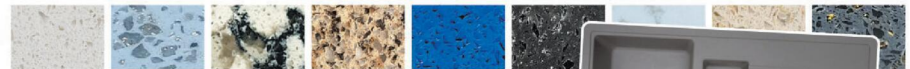


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Mum charity praised for lifesaving kit

A 'HEROIC' charity founded by a Rugby mum in memory of her son has been honoured on Restart a Heart Day.

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

The OurJay Foundation has been named a Restart a Heart Hero for safeguarding communities with a groundbreaking solar and wind powered defibrillator cabinet.

The charity sought out a solution when no suitable electricity supply could be found for defibrillators in Houlton's wildlife corridor or at Princethorpe College's sport pitches.

The foundation adopted Turtle Medical's pioneering wind and solar-powered defibrillators to solve the problem.

The stand-alone cabinets, which have two solar panels and a turbine designed to withstand and harness storm force gales, can be

installed on any solid surface. To mark Restart a Heart Day yesterday (Thursday October 16), which raises awareness of cardiac arrest and supports people to learn life-saving CPR, the charity is being praised as Restart a Heart Heroes by Turtle for being determined to protect people and help increase cardiac arrest survival rates.

Mike Dowson, the engineer behind the innovative defibrillator cabinets, said: "It's important for our Restart a Heart Heroes like OurJay, Princethorpe College and Houlton master developers Urban&Civic to be celebrated. They were not satisfied to leave members of the community at risk, and they will inspire other places without electrical connection.



Naomi Rees-Issitt (front, right) with representatives from The OurJay Foundation and Princethorpe College, with Turtle's unique wind and solar powered defibrillator cabinet.

"We spent two years undertaking research, development and feasibility studies because we knew there were too many villages, communities and leisure destinations where people were in a vulnerable position if they were to suffer a cardiac arrest.

"Warwickshire is leading the way thanks to OurJay and there is an opportunity for many people to feel more protected, whether in their

home, walking their dog or playing sports."

The OurJay Foundation was founded by Rugby woman Naomi Rees-Issitt following her son Jamie's death from a cardiac arrest five years ago, when he was just 18.

She said the new defibrillator cabinets were a 'fantastic idea', adding: "The closest defib to Jamie when he suffered his cardiac arrest was locked in a school, so it was

natural for the OurJay Foundation to focus on installations of public defib equipment outside education premises."

The charity raises awareness of the importance of publicly accessible defibrillators and provides training in life-saving skills – and has so far installed nearly 300 defibrillators across Warwickshire and beyond. Visit www.ourjay.org.uk for more information.

Rugby High School learning and wellbeing mentor Lara Hutton, with Year 13 student Jess.



School to host sixth form open evening

YEAR 11 students and their families are invited to a sixth form open evening at a Rugby secondary school.

Rugby High School

is hosting the open evening next month for students interested in studying in its sixth form.

Visitors will be able to find out more

about the A-Level subjects on offer, and talk to teachers, students, the sixth form team and senior student leadership team. The event takes

place on Thursday November 6 from 5.30 to 8.30pm.

Visit the website at www.rugbyhighschool.co.uk/rh6 to register.







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LEFT: Alex Goode pulled on a Lions shirt for a one-off appearance. MIDDLE: Scott Quinnell delivers a rousing team talk. RIGHT: All spectators received a free pint from club sponsors Camden Town Brewery.

Legendary names of the game join special day for the Lions

LEGENDS of rugby came to the birthplace of the game as hundreds flocked to a special matchday at Rugby Lions.

Ex-Wales captain Scott Quinnell and ex-England international Alex Goode were the guests of honour at Rugby Football Club's match against Oundle II.

Their visit coincided with a special 'Rugby's Biggest Round'

matchday celebration to mark the club's new partnership with Camden Town Brewery – complete with a free pint for every attendee.

Team talk specialist Scott Quinnell rallied the team ahead of the match with a rousing speech that had the dressing room roaring.

And Alex Goode was persuaded to come out of retirement and pull

on his boots for a one-off appearance for the Lions.

All ticket proceeds went towards infrastructure improvements at the Webb Ellis Stadium, such as a set of new floodlights.

The partnership with Camden Town Brewery will see the company contribute to renovations, including fixing up the rundown stand and turnstiles, and supplying

equipment across every level of the club.

Mal Malik, Chairman of Rugby Football Club, said: "We're so grateful for the sponsorship that is promising to bring a smile to the club and community."

"We're one of many grassroots clubs that has felt the squeeze in the past decade, and to have a vehicle to create a change to the

sport up and down the country is a refreshing notion for the future."

George Fitzroy, our Head of Marketing at Camden Town Brewery, added: "Last year we unveiled Give 'Em Hells, an initiative designed to provide vital support to rugby clubs across the UK. The aim is to foster stronger community connections through the shared love of rugby and beer."



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LEFT: Dancing in the street.

RIGHT: Dancers performed traditional routines on the stage outside the Swan Centre. Picture by Mohini Mistry (Mjay) from Mjay Artography.

BELOW: Smiles at the front of the lantern parade.



Lighting up the town

'A VIBRANT celebration' took place in Rugby town centre on Sunday (October 12) to mark Diwali.

Thousands turned out in the town centre to celebrate the Festival of Lights.

The free open-air community event featured a lantern parade, food, stalls, festive lighting, family entertainment, and music and dance performances on stages in Market Place and outside the Swan Centre.

Diwali is celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains across the world. It symbolises new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness, and for some also

by **Andy Morris**
andy.morris@bullivantmedia.com

coincides with harvest and new year celebrations.

The event was organised by the Rugby Indian Communities with support from Rugby First and Rugby Borough Council.

Coun Ish Mistry, one of the organisers and Deputy Leader of Rugby Borough Council, said the event was a 'vibrant celebration'.

He added: "The entertainment on both stages captivated attendees with outstanding music, colourful costumes and dances representing the diversity of Indian culture from all its regions. The

event truly highlighted Rugby's diverse and inclusive community, which lies at the very heart of the town's identity. The sense of unity and joy was palpable throughout the celebrations.

"The parade around the town centre, which saw enthusiastic participation from the community, culminated in the Diwali light switch-on performed by the Mayor, Barbara Brown.

"Rugby is a special place because of its exceptional people, whose spirit and commitment make such community events possible and memorable."

Visit www.therugbytown.co.uk for information on other town centre events, including Halloween.



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Familiar face helps out at rehearsals

HARRY Potter star David Bradley has shown his support for a theatre group by becoming its new celebrity patron and paying a visit to rehearsals for its fundraising festive show.

The actor, who played Argus Filch in the film series, visited the first rehearsal of Raise the Roof theatre company's upcoming Christmas production to meet the cast.

Raise the Roof was founded in memory of 11-year-old Annabel Greenhalgh from Warwick Gates, who died suddenly in October 2022. It has raised more than £10,000 to date for Birmingham Children's Hospital in Annabel's memory.

Former Stratford and now Leamington resident David joined rehearsals for Raise The Roof's show, A Christmas with Carol, to share stories and advice with the cast, who are all from the area.

As well as his role in Harry Potter, David is a veteran of the big and small screen, and also appeared in the massive hit tv series Game of Thrones. He is also an alumnus of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Amelia Fewtrill Webster, CEO of Raise the Roof, said: "It was wonderful to welcome David to our rehearsal for A Christmas with Carol. We appreciate him taking the time to join us and offer his wisdom."

"Having someone as talented and respected as David supporting our company fills us with pride and motivation. His generosity



keeps Annabel's memory alive and strengthens our mission to fundraise for Birmingham Children's Hospital through the joy of performance."

A Christmas with Carol is a musical inspired by Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, reimagined with music, laughter, and festive cheer, and will be performed at the Bridge House Theatre in Warwick.

Tickets are on sale now for the three performances - an evening show on Friday November 28 and a matinee and evening performance on Saturday November 29.

The show is being supported by sponsorship from d Blythe Liggins Solicitors, which has sponsored Raise The Roof's previous two Christmas shows.

Donna Bothamley, partner at Blythe Liggins, said: "We are proud

to have been sponsoring Raise the Roof since its first show and to watch it grow over those three years. It is great to see an esteemed actor like David Bradley offering them his support.

"Booking tickets for a Christmas show is a great way to start making festive plans, so we'd encourage people to snap up their tickets for A Christmas with Carol and help raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital."

Visit www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/show/a-christmas-with-carol/ for more information and to book tickets.

David Bradley with members of Raise the Roof theatre company at rehearsals for their show, A Christmas with Carol.



Let there be LED light at the Royal Spa Centre in Leamington.

Future's looking brighter at venue

A COMPLETE lighting upgrade at Leamington's Royal Spa Centre is set to reduce the building's electricity use by 30 per cent.

The arts venue, which hosts over 95,000 visitors each year through a diverse programme of events and performances, has seen all its lighting, including the specialist stage lighting, upgraded to energy efficient LEDs.

Due to the building's busy schedule and long hours of operation, electricity use is higher than other council buildings.

The measures installed are expected to save 67,000 kWh of electricity per year, reducing the building's electricity consumption

by 30 per cent and providing annual carbon savings of just under 14 tonnes, saving £17,000 per year in electricity bills.

Warwick District Council's decarbonisation spokesperson Coun Lowell Williams said: "This lighting upgrade at the Royal Spa Centre not only reduces emissions and saves money, it also provides the many visitors to the venue an improved experience with state-of-the-art lighting."

"We will continue to identify the buildings within our asset portfolio to lower energy bills and reduce carbon emissions as part of our Low Cost, Low Carbon energy programme."

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A Family Legacy that Shines from Tile to Tap

How City Bathrooms & Kitchens Has Been Refreshing Homes Across Coventry and Warwickshire for 38 Years

There's something quietly satisfying about a bathroom done properly. The perfect line of the tiling, the reassuring click of a solidly fitted cabinet, the way the light catches polished chrome. It's the kind of craftsmanship that doesn't shout, it simply lasts... AND it looks great!

That same sense of enduring quality runs deep at City Bathrooms & Kitchens, a family-run Coventry institution that has been helping local homeowners bring their dream spaces to life for over 38 years. What began in 1987 as a



one-man venture founded by a determined 17-year-old, Keith Darlison, has grown into a trusted local brand renowned for excellence, service, and integrity.

Back then, Keith's vision was refreshingly simple: to deliver beautiful bathrooms with honest advice and meticulous attention to detail. And, in a world where businesses come and go faster than a bathroom trend in glossy magazines or on Pinterest, that ethos has not just survived, it has thrived.

Today, City Bathrooms & Kitchens remains proudly in family hands. Keith's sons, Jamie and Jordan, now lead the company with the same energy, hands-on approach, and dedication that defined their father's early days on the tools. The pair have modernised and expanded the business, but the heart of it - family values, craftsmanship, and customer care - remains firmly in place.

"We've never wanted to be the biggest just for the sake of it," says Jamie. "We wanted to be the best... the most trusted. That's what Dad built, and it's what we work to protect every day."

From Humble Beginnings to Coventry's Largest Showroom

Walk into City Bathrooms & Kitchens' three-floor superstore on Longford Road, and it's clear this is no ordinary showroom. Spanning hundreds of displays, it's the largest bathroom and kitchen showroom in Coventry and Warwickshire, a carefully curated gallery of inspiration.

But unlike the impersonal gloss of national chains, there's a warmth here, a sense that you're not being "sold to" but rather guided, one design at a time, toward what will



genuinely work for you. The team, many of whom have been with the company for years, combine technical expertise with a designer's eye and a craftsman's precision. Whether you're after a full renovation or just a thoughtful update, their complete design, supply, and installation service means everything runs seamlessly, from concept to completion. No confusion, no coordination headaches, just a smooth, stress-free experience that leaves you wondering why you didn't do it sooner.

Reputation Built on Trust, Tile by Tile

That trust is reflected in over 750 Google reviews and 280+ Checkatrade reviews, glowing testimonials that speak volumes.

Customers praise the professionalism of the installation teams, the attention to detail in design, and the aftercare that makes them feel valued long after the last towel rail is fitted. "It's not just about selling bathrooms or kitchens," explains Jordan. "It's about improving people's homes and giving them something they can enjoy every single day. That's personal to us."

Design That Works as Beautifully as It Looks

Bathrooms and kitchens are the hardest-working rooms in any home, spaces where function and beauty have to live in perfect harmony. City Bathrooms & Kitchens understands this instinctively.

A Local Business with Lasting Values

In many ways, City Bathrooms & Kitchens mirrors the best of Coventry itself: hard-working, forward-looking, and deeply proud of its roots. For over three decades, the Darlison family has built not just a business, but a community... one built on reliability, skill, and a genuine love of what they do. Because in the end, a great bathroom or kitchen isn't just about tiles or taps. It's about trust. It's about knowing that the people behind your project care as much about your home as you do. And that's something you can't put a price on.

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A top award...

A YOUTUBE star has surprised Coventry pupils who grow their fruit and vegetables for school meals and foodbanks with a top gardening award.

Gardening expert Huw Richards presented GARDENA's Kids on the Plot trophy to pupils and teachers from Earlsdon Primary School, who grow pumpkins, rhubarb, potatoes, garlic, tomatoes, peppers, leeks and more on their two allotment plots.

They helped to raise £7,000 to build a learning shelter so they could continue with gardening lessons all year round, and also created a pond, wormery and compost heap to improve biodiversity.

Head teacher Rebecca Bollands hailed the community allotment, which they launched two years ago, as one of the 'best things we've ever done'.

She said: "It's absolutely phenomenal. Pupils who have struggled with concentration in class come here and really benefit from

being outdoors and get stuck in with digging and learning about plants.

"We grow fruit and vegetables for school meals, including chard for spaghetti bolognese, and we created a library exhibition of gardening photos in our new shed.

"Our allotment visits have become a big part of school life and it's amazing that we're number one in the country."

Bestselling author Huw presented the award as part of GARDENA's Top of the Plots competition, and offered the kids tips on how to plant strawberry lemonade tulips.

He said: "This is an amazing project. I was blown away.

"Visiting the finalists and exploring their vibrant allotments and gardens served as a reminder for me of the power of gardening, and how much joy it brings.

"If you've been inspired by this year's Top of the Plots winners, this is your sign to get planting. Start with one seed, and begin to cultivate your green space. Maybe next year I'll be visiting your new plot!"

Howard Scott, GARDENA UK Country Manager, said: "We've been captivated by this school's incredible allotment which showcases the joy of cultivating your produce and connecting with nature.

"Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, this competition has celebrated gardening greatness, with more than 100 entries across the country, and we can't wait for next year already."

Huw Richards, Earlsdon Primary head teacher Rebecca Bollands, and pupils Emily, Olive and Diego.



There's plenty of Halloween fun on offer for kids at St Mary's Guildhall this half term. Picture by F Stop Press Ltd/www.fstoppress.com / www.rkpphotography.co.uk

The Ghostly Guildhall

ONE of Coventry's most historic buildings is hosting a week of Halloween-themed fun.

St Mary's Guildhall will be transformed into the Ghostly Guildhall from October 25 to 31.

Visitors are invited to uncover chilling tales, discover hidden bones on a Halloween trail, and learn about the Guildhall's fascinating and sometimes spooky history.

Youngsters can get stuck into Halloween-themed crafts, join one of the popular daily Halloween tours, and follow the Bone-tastic Trail in search for parts of the mysterious 'Bobby Bones'.

On October 30 and 31, supernatural storytellers Mistress Moaning Mary and Wailing Willow will host a series of special ticketed events filled with games, crafts and not-too-scary tales from the past.

A children's Halloween Afternoon Tea with

Willow and Mary will be served in the atmospheric Tales of Tea restaurant on October 30 and 31.

Children are encouraged to come dressed in their favourite Halloween costumes.

Abi Moore, Heritage and Venue Manager at St Mary's Guildhall, which is operated by No Ordinary Hospitality, said: "The Ghostly Guildhall brings hundreds of years of spooky tales to life with a fun and family-friendly twist, and we can't wait to welcome witches, wizards, and curious kids of all ages this October half term."

General admission charges apply for the Ghostly Guildhall experience from October 25 to 29, and advance booking is required for the Mistress Moaning Mary and Wailing Willow sessions on October 30 and 31.

Visit www.stmarysguildhall.co.uk for full details and booking links.

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Left to right: Pupils from Solihull School, Crescent School and Dunchurch Boughton Junior Academy with Princeshorpe's Deputy Head for Academic, Michael Spencer.

GIFTED kids from a Rugby primary school have triumphed at an annual maths competition. A team from Dunchurch Boughton Junior Academy took first place in this year's Princeshorpe College Year 5 Maths Challenge. Teams from Crescent School in Rugby and Solihull Prep School came second and third. Princeshorpe's Deputy Head for Academic Michael Spencer, and Head of Maths Sharon McBride welcomed 74 pairs of talented Year 5 mathematicians from 44 schools across the region. After a welcome from College Headmaster Grove du Toit, the visiting pupils took on a series of puzzles against the clock. In five eight-minute rounds, they tackled Tangrams, the 24 Game, Shape Arithmetic, Number

Detectives and Matchstick Puzzles. Aply supported and marked by a team of Princeshorpe Sixth Form students, the competition engaged the youngsters with activities that required both reasoning skills and mathematical knowledge. The winning teams all received mathematical prizes presented by Mr Spencer, and everyone who participated received a certificate and a Princeshorpe cookie. Sharon McBride said: "The College was delighted to host this event and provide local schools with the opportunity to put their pupils' maths skills to the test. "It was an exciting morning of mathematical fun and we were really impressed by the enthusiasm of all the children. "Well done to everyone who took part."

Powerful story is next show on stage

AN 'UPLIFTING and powerful' musical set in the wake of 9/11 is taking to the stage at Rugby Theatre.

Come From Away takes place in the tiny town of Gander, Newfoundland, where 38 aeroplanes carrying 7,000 passengers were forced to land on September 11, 2001.

It is described as an inspiring tale of community, kindness and connection in the face of crisis.

The show's director Mark Tolchard said: "This is a story that celebrates the very best of humanity."

"We are honoured to bring this extraordinary musical to the Rugby stage, and share its message of compassion and hope with our community."

With a population of just 10,000, the townspeople of Gander opened their homes, schools and hearts to strangers from around the world.

The show follows several real-life characters, both locals and passengers, whose lives were deeply affected by the events.

Among them are Claude, the town's mayor; Beverley, an American Airlines pilot; Kevin and Kevin, a couple facing relationship strain; and Hannah, a mother desperate for news about her firefighter son in New York.

Wrapped up in a fast-paced, 100-minute journey soundtrack by folk-rock music, the show features just 12 actors playing over 30 characters. They all pay tribute to both



The show features 12 actors playing over 30 characters. Picture by Martin Pulley.

the generosity of the people of Gander and the resilience of the stranded passengers.

Mark added: "Despite being centred around a tragic moment in history, Come From Away is uplifting, often humorous and ultimately hopeful."

"It celebrates the best of humanity in the face of tragedy, showing how compassion and community can

thrive even in the darkest times. "Join us at Rugby Theatre for a night of extraordinary storytelling, unforgettable music and a powerful reminder of the kindness of strangers."

Come From Away runs from October 17-25, with matinee performances on both Saturdays.

Visit www.rugbytheatre.co.uk or call 01788 541234 for tickets.

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From silly witches to ghosts that party, Look for the place that seems to be stary.

Bring what you've gathered from your eerie round, Tell us where the giant coffee cup can be found!

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AROUND TOWN
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Join the Pumpkin Path Party!

Explore Leamington Spa this Half Term and follow the trail of clues hidden in shop windows to uncover where to find the **Giant Coffee Cup!**

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Modern refreshment of an old tale has plenty to say for itself

Theatre review

Cyrano de Bergerac
RSC Swan Theatre

WORDS, it's said, can say so much and it's the power and beauty of language, coupled with the devastation of things left unsaid, that lights up this hugely impressive, always pleasing revisit to the tale of soldier-poet Cyrano.

Brilliantly-skilled as a wordsmith Cyrano, blessed with a nose which undermines any confidence he might have, woos the object of his love by becoming the secret ghost writer for a far less able suitor.

Packed with language at all its levels - soaring poetry to guttural utterings - this rollicking, thrilling and totally affecting Cyrano is simply a treat.

Lavishly-staged and with quite the best musical interventions seen for a long while, this is a company piece which has lofty ambitions but manages to fulfil every one of them.

It's the central skewed love triangle on whom the success of this production rests and they all shine.

Susannah Fielding's Roxane is a thoroughly modern woman about as far from the passive object of male love she could so easily be. She has her own agenda when it comes to finding love and a rich vein of spar-



Adrian Lester is convincing and dazzling as Cyrano de Bergerac in his RSC debut. Picture Marc Brenner (RSC).

ling wit and almost tom-boyish challenge make this a wonderfully rounded reading.

Lover Christian (Levi Brown) may be underpowered when it comes to improvised poetry but he commands sympathy and support in a way that, in a previous age, may have attracted something closer to scorn. In our enlightened times we

don't label the unskilled as risible losers and, tellingly, he is never laughed at.

As Cyrano himself Adrian Lester is both convincing and dazzling. It's a performance full of stage-filling bombast but retaining so many subtleties and quiet moments throughout. For all the tragedy of a doomed love life, this is still essentially

a comic part and the timing and nuance on show is marvellous.

Support comes from so many places and the entire company make the most of the comic moments on offer, of which there are many. Scott Handy as the lank-haired timid Compte and Greer Dale-Foulkes as the livewire but gauche companion both deserve a mention but there

are gems wherever you look.

It could easily be said that the true star of this show is its script, a new adaptation by Simon Evans and Debris Stevenson. Retaining all the pomp and wordplay of the original and adding a sassy, gritty dash of modernism, it covers all bases and is never short on surprises.

Judicious blending of modern idioms and unashamedly theatrical asides makes for a show which really seems to enjoy itself.

Grace Smart's design takes us from the footlights of a Paris stage, to the smoke-covered centre of the battle. The flavour is eclectic rather than specific when it comes to history but the action moves seamlessly from one place to another and, in the hands of director Simon Evans, never drags.

In a show laden with so many fine poetic moments and passages of dazzling verbal wit, it's the shocking impact of the loss of those skills as Cyrano, revisited in later years, crumbles under a combination of age, injury and perhaps a hint towards dementia, that is so shocking. If we are what we say, then what are we when we have nothing to say or cannot say it?

There is perhaps a case for viewing the fairly long drawn out ending as verging on the sentimental. But the gradual quieting of words, the play's chief ingredient, is justified and ultimately both moving and successful.

Matthew Salisbury

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New short film puts a powerful case for looking at fostering

The view across the moat towards the Family Range at Baddesley Clinton. Picture by National Trust Images/James Beck



'THE POWER of fostering' is the focus of a new short film released by Warwickshire Fostering.

The Run, which highlights the benefits of a stable home, is available to watch online.

The film focuses on Tom, an 11-year-old boy, contrasting his desperate need to run - away from danger, a chaotic home life, to get to school in time for breakfast club because he's hungry - with running as a sport.

The film explores the stability and encouragement provided by his new foster family, which allows him to pursue his running talent.

It aims to provide a metaphor for the potential unlocked when a child is given a safe home.

The production of 'The Run', the seventh fostering awareness film, evolved from a small local project in the Midlands into a major nationwide campaign.

Produced by award-winning ReelTwentyFive, the film represents

the most ambitious jointly funded fostering film project to date, involving over 90 local authority fostering services across the country.

profound difference a stable home can make. Here in Warwickshire, there are children like Tom who need compassion, security, and a chance to shine.

"The message is clear: there is an urgent need for more foster carers to step forward.

"We sincerely hope that everyone who watches 'The Run' will be moved to consider fostering for Warwickshire and to help change a young person's story."

The film project highlights the critical need for more local authority foster carers across the county.

The film's project director Rachel Brown explained: "The Run won't change things on its own, but we hope that everyone who sees

it will at least pause for thought, hopefully stepping forward to help our most vulnerable children and young people."

The Run aims to highlight the benefits of a stable home.



Coun George Finch, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Children and Families at Warwickshire County Council, said: "The Run is a brilliant, emotional and high-quality film that captures the reality of a child's journey into care and the

An autumn stroll

STEP into autumn - the National Trust is inviting residents to enjoy the season on its walking trails.

The conservation charity's properties in the county include woodland strolls and countryside rambles which show off nature's autumnal colour palette.

To celebrate the season, the charity has curated a list of the top trails and scenic spots in Warwickshire where autumn comes alive.

Charlecote Park is a haven for wildlife, from birds and bats to fallow deer. Dog walkers can enjoy a stroll around Front Park, while those who enjoy boundary walks can follow the newly rebuilt cleft oak fence. An all-terrain mobility vehicle can be hired free of charge.

Coughton Court features a new 1.5-mile circular walk, arranged in partnership with the Heart of England Forest. The Forest of

Arden is home to towering oak trees, where visitors can tread in the footsteps of a renowned high-walker through Timms Grove.

Packwood House is a Tudor manor house with a blend of history, gardens and countryside. The surrounding estate offers miles of walks through fields, woodland, and quiet lanes. The Packwood Family Walk is a gentle, dog-friendly, one-mile circular route, ideal for all ages. For those wanting to go further, there are longer routes across the estate with chances to spot wildlife.

Baddesley Clinton offers the chance to explore the wider estate featuring canal paths and fields. A five-mile circular walk starts at either Baddesley or nearby Packwood.

Visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/warwickshire/walking for more information.

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Josephine Rugg



Warm Hub schemes could be in line for cash help

COMMUNITY efforts to tackle fuel poverty and keep people in the West Midlands, Warwickshire and Worcestershire warm this winter are being offered free financial support from National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED).

Money is being made available to run warm spaces and improve the energy efficiency of community buildings, such as village halls, that are hosting them.

The company is also looking to support groups distributing items like blankets, insulated curtains and draught excluders for home use, visiting isolated households to help people make their homes warmer and more energy efficient and providing tariff switching, energy saving, winter fuel discount, or other fuel poverty advice.

Individual grants up to \$5,000 are available for registered charities or non-profit companies from NGED's Community Matters Fund, which is open for applications until 5pm on October 24.

Ellie Patey, NGED's Social Impact Business Partner, said: "We want to support grassroots organisations that are looking to help people stay warm this winter, particularly those facing cost of living pressures."

"We're keen to back projects



West Midlands and Warwickshire warm hubs are being offered a financial helping hand this winter.

delivering a legacy of support beyond the initial funding. For example, helping people save money on energy bills on an ongoing sustainable basis."

NGED is making \$500,000 available through its Community Matters Fund this autumn, with constituted charitable organisations without a charity number able to apply for up to \$2,000.

This winter's funding is part of National Grid's ongoing commitment to energy affordability through a range of community support.

This includes year-round partnerships with trusted organisations via the "Power Up" and "Affordable Warmth" schemes to help tackle fuel poverty, targeted assistance delivered in collaboration with Kidney Care UK and the Fuel Bank Foundation, and increased access to warm, welcoming community spaces through a partnership with the Warm Welcome campaign.

Additional support is also available for customers with extra needs through the Priority Services Register.

Applications can be made by visiting localgiving.org/community-matters-fund-2025-110049

Organisations that complete applications will be informed of the outcome of their application by late November, with funds distributed to successful applicants before December.

Projects must be delivered, and funding spent by 31 March 31, 2026.

The Community Matters Fund has awarded \$11.8million to more than 2,100 grassroots organisations.

Still a chance to book a jab

THE NHS has vaccinated nearly a million more people against flu so far this autumn compared to last year, figures have shown.

New data reveals 4.3million people have received the flu vaccine as NHS teams across England ramp up efforts to help protect those most at risk of getting seriously ill.

The UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA's) latest surveillance data showed that flu positivity increased from 1.9 per cent to 3.3 per cent and COVID-19 positivity in hospital settings increased from 11.7 per cent in the previous week to 12.9 per cent.

More than a million people have also received the COVID-19 vaccine, and the NHS has been taking strong early action to prepare for what is expected to be the busiest winter ever for A&E and ambulances.

Booking for winter vaccines opened earlier this year on September 1, with delivery starting 2 days earlier than last year on October 1, to encourage people to get their jabs as soon as possible.

Appointments and walk-in sessions are available in local pharmacies, GP practices and community clinic drop-in centres across the country

Regional teams are improving access to the vaccines through mobile vaccination buses, family community drop-in sessions, and for the first time ever delivering flu vaccines to 2 and 3-year-olds in community pharmacies.

Since the start of September, vaccination teams have been rolling out flu vaccines to pregnant women and children through GP practices, maternity services and via schools.

You can book an appointment via the NHS App, your local GP practice, online at www.nhs.uk/bookflu or www.nhs.uk/book-covid, or by calling 119.



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Simple advice that could help keep things flowing smoothly

SEVERN Trent is once again backing Unblocktober, the UK's national awareness campaign aimed at preventing sewer blockages and flooding.

With thousands of avoidable blockages cleared every year, the water company is calling on everyone to work together and be a binner, not a blocker.

Items such as wet wipes, fats, oils, and greases are wrongly disposed of down toilets and sinks, that can lead to serious blockages and flooding in the home that could prove costly to fix.

In 2024 alone, Severn Trent cleared around 30,000 blockages, many of which could have been avoided with simple changes in household habits.

Grant Mitchell, Blockages Lead at Severn Trent, said: "We see the impact of sewer blockages every single day, from flooded homes to awful, blocked pipes and these issues are often caused by things that should never have been flushed or poured away in the first place.

"Unblocktober gives us a chance to shine a spotlight on these issues and encourage everyone to take action. It's simple, only flush the three P's - pee, poo, and toilet paper - and keep fats, oils and greases out of the sink.

"We've cleared everything from wet wipes and nappies to toys and even clothing from our sewers.



These items don't belong there, and the consequences can be costly and unpleasant. By making small

changes at home, we can all help protect our communities and the environment."

Wet wipes, even those labelled 'flushable', are one of the biggest culprits as unlike toilet paper, they

Severn Trent is urging households to only flush the three P's - pee, poo, and toilet paper.

don't break down properly and can cause major blockages, sometimes resulting in sewage backing up into homes. Fats oils, and grease (FOG) is another major offender, congealing in pipes and forming fatbergs that are difficult and costly to remove.

Severn Trent teams remove around two and a half tonnes of unflushables from sewers every year and recently cleared 14 million litres of FOG, the equivalent of six Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Throughout Unblocktober Severn Trent will be sharing helpful hints and tips, as well as, shining a light of the waste crews through Sewer Stories.

If unflushables make it through the network, they end up at sewage treatment works where they're filtered out and sent to landfill, an unnecessary and environmentally damaging process that can be avoided.

To learn more about how to prevent blockages, visit www.stwater.co.uk/avoidblockages. For more on the Unblocktober campaign, visit www.unblocktober.org.

If you're experiencing slow drains or suspect a blockage, report it online or call 0800 783 4444.



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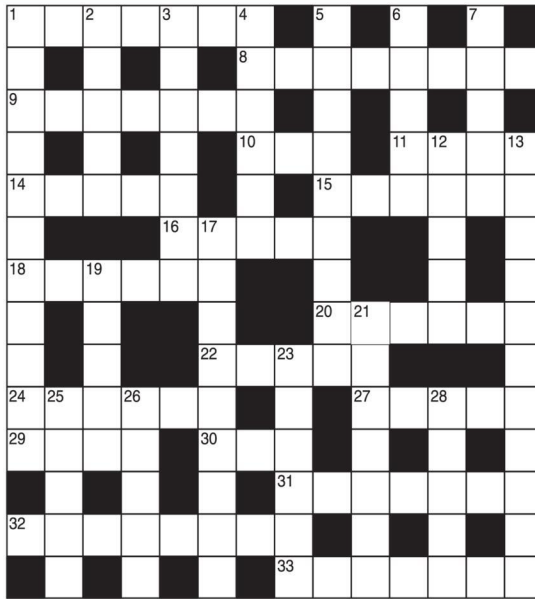
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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 The largest of the planets (7)
- 8 Device for hoisting or hauling (8)
- 9 Greek philosopher whose story is told in a novel by Charles Kingsley (7)
- 10 & 21 Down Chief city of Louisiana and the birthplace of jazz (3,7)
- 11 Title of the one-time sovereign ruler of Iran (4)
- 14 Language of the ancient Romans (5)
- 15 One of the Marshall Islands, in the Pacific (6)
- 16 Artificial imitation, a statue (5)
- 18 A kind of cotton cloth (6)
- 20 Style of decoration characterised by scrollwork, shell motifs, etc. (6)
- 22 Woodland spirit, young and goatlike (5)
- 24 Russian monetary unit (6)
- 27 Surname of the cricketer who took a record 19 wickets (England v Australia) in 1956 (5)
- 29 Nobleman ranking between marquis and viscount (4)
- 30 & 17 Down Agatha Christie thriller holding the record for the longest run in the British theatre (3,9)
- 31 One of the marks used for enclosing words, figures, etc. (7)
- 32 Body or framework of an aircraft (8)
- 33 Yellowish-green finches (7)



DOWN

- 1 The pen-name of the author famous for Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy and Smiley's People (4,2,5)
- 2 Bird related to the wagtail, but looking like a lark (5)
- 3 British passenger liner which sunk on her maiden voyage to New York in April 1912 (7)
- 4 Country situated between Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, capital, Kigali (6)
- 5 Kind of white-berried shrub (9)
- 6 Pocket-bottle of metal or glass (5)
- 7 A native of the largest of the continents (5)
- 12 Large African quadruped with a thick hairless body (in short) (5)
- 13 The most celebrated physician of Greek antiquity (11)
- 17 See 30
- 19 Primate allied to monkeys but with a pointed muzzle (5)
- 21 See 10
- 23 Ancient city of upper Egypt, on the site of modern Luxor (6)
- 25 Rope fibre used for caulking (5)
- 26 Slow, melancholy song of Black American origin (5)
- 28 Curved Gurkha knife or short sword (5)

SOLUTIONS

19 Lemur; 21 Orleans; 23 Fleask; 7 Asian; 12 Hippo; 13 Hippocrates; 17 Mousetrap; 4 Rwanda; 5 Snowberry; 6 Flask; 7 Asian; 12 Hippo; 13 Hippocrates; 17 Mousetrap; 31 Bracket; 32 Fuseage; 33 Siskins. DOWN: 1 John le Carré; 2 Pipt; 3 Titanic; 16 Inage; 18 Calico; 20 Rococo; 22 Sany; 24 Roubie; 27 Laker; 29 Earl; 30 The; ACROSS: 1 Jupter; 8 Windlass; 9 Hyprat; 10 New; 11 Shah; 14 Latin; 15 Bikini;

General Knowledge Crossword

21 Lido. ACROSS: 7 Controversial; 8 Strangle; 9 Earn; 10 Behalf; 12 Impose; 14 Assume; 16 Troupe; 18 Lass; 20 Dlatory; 22 Inconsiderate; Down: 1 Fortress; 2 Strata; 3 Long; 4 Derelict; 5 Asleep; 6 Fair; 11 Frenshish; 13 Separate; 15 Upshot; 17 Outcry; 19 Aunt;

Crossword

BACTERIUM James Taylor Quartet, Van Morrison, The Pretenders, Barenaked Comedy, Space, James Dean Bradfield, Mousse T, Heather Small, The Cardigans, Stereophonics, Robbie Williams, The Divine from Catatonia, Sir Tom Jones.

Niner

Ladies, Simply Red, Zucchero, Natalie Imbruglia, Fortishead, Cerys

Wordwheel Pathfinder

24=R, 25=S, 26=H
17=L, 18=A, 19=F, 20=K, 21=W, 22=J, 23=B,
10=Y, 11=E, 12=G, 13=M, 14=X, 15=Q, 16=L,
1=O, 2=C, 3=Z, 4=T, 5=Y, 6=N, 7=P, 8=U, 9=D,
Dice, Dive.

Ladder

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| 1 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
| 6 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 5 |
| 7 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| 2 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 1 |
| 5 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
| 3 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 4 |

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

GIBRALTAR LANE, LEAMINGTON HASTINGS

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to cut off old water pipe.
Order Commences: 20 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 21 October 2025.

Access & Diversion: Gibraltar Lane, Calias Lane, Southam Road, Hospital Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management, Tel: 03300 080 820

MONKS KIRBY LANE, MONKS KIRBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to rebuild air valve chamber.
Order Commences: 20 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 22 October 2025.

Access & Diversion: Monks Kirby Lane, Bond End, Main Street, Millers Lane, Fosse Way, Coal Pit Lane and vice versa.
Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820

D3234 WINDSOR STREET, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed between Clifton Road and Sun Street.
Reason for Order: Remove/replace block paved speed ramp and associated works, closed 09.30hrs-15.30hrs.
Order Commences: 20 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 24 October 2025.

Access & Diversion: Clifton Road, Cambridge Street, Sun Street and vice versa. Vehicular access & egress will be maintained where possible and safe to do so for businesses and residents only.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

D3224 GROSVENOR ROAD, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed between Clifton Road and Wells Street.
Reason for Order: Removal/replacement of speed ramp with tarmac surfacing, closed 09.30hrs-15.30 hrs.
Order Commences: 20 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 24 October 2025

Access & Diversion: Clifton Road, Whitehall Road Roundabout, Murray Road, Wells Street and vice versa. Vehicular access & egress will be maintained where possible and safe to do so for businesses and residents only.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

AQUA PLACE, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To safely enable installation of a small hydrant.
Order Commences: 22 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 24 October 2025.

Access & Diversion: No diversion available.
Contractor: Chevron TM Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

A426 LEICESTER ROAD, CHURCHOVER & A426 LEICESTER ROAD, GIBBETT HILL

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from the A5 Gibbett Hill roundabout to the M6 northbound exit slip including the east bound side of junction 1 roundabout.
Reason for Order: To enable overnight works linked to M6 improvement works, 20.00hrs-06.00hrs.
Order Commences: 29 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 1 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: No diversion available.
Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

KINGS NEWNHAM LANE, BRETFORD
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To safely enable utility works.
Order Commences: 4 November 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 4 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: Fosse Way, Newnham Lane, Bretford Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

SOUTH ROAD, CLIFTON ON DUNSMORE
Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from its junction with Hillmorton Lane.
Reason for Order: To enable ducting works.
Order Commences: 3 November 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 5 November 2025.

Access & Diversion: South Road, main Street, Lilbourne Road, Hillmorton lane and vice versa.
Contractor: Callan Contract, Tel: 01213 275 167.

BEECH DRIVE, THURLASTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable duct laying works.
Order Commences: 5 November 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 16 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: No diversion available.

Contractor: Omnis Highway Solutions, Tel: 01724 786 286.

A426 LEICESTER ROAD (NEWBOLD ROAD), RUGBY

Order Effect: Road Closed to vehicular traffic from Hunters Lane to the A4071.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 09.30hrs-15.30hrs.
Order Commences: 5 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 5 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: A4071, A45, Coventry Road, A426, A428, A426 and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

D3218 TOM BROWN STREET, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Bath Street to Claremont Road.
Reason for Order: Carriageway resurfacing and associated works, 09.30hrs-15.30hrs.
Order Commences: 4 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 5 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Bath Street, Craven Road, Claremont Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

D32790 KINGSLEY AVENUE, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from A428 to Studland Avenue.
Reason for Order: Carriage patching and associated works, 08.00hrs-16.00hrs.
Order Commences: 5 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 5 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Kingsley Avenue, Lower Hillmorton Road, The Kent, Featherbed Lane, Deerings Road, A428 and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

COTON PARK DRIVE, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to repair/replace defective manhole frame and covers.
Order Commences: 7 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 7 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Central Park Drive, Leicester Road, Newton Manor Lane and vice versa.

Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

CONSUL ROAD, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to repair/replace defective manhole frame and covers.
Order Commences: 5 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 5 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Leicester Road, Brownsver Road, Old Leicester Road, Giebe Farm Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

HOLLTON WAY, RUGBY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to connect 2 pressurised soil sewers.
Order Commences: 3 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 14 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Vicarage Hill, Rugby Road, Main Street, Lilbourne Road, Hillmorton Lane and vice versa.

Contractor: Chevron Traffic Management Ltd, Tel: 03300 080 820.

For all of the above temporary orders, pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

To report any problems with these works or for further details of our current & planned roadworks visit our website warwickshire.gov.uk/roadworksmap or call us 01926 412515.

S Duxbury, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 16 Oct 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

B41130 STONELEIGH ROAD, STONELEIGH

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Westhill Road to Staraton Lane.
Reason for Order: Drainage, culvert replacement and associated works.
Order Commences: 17 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 20 October 2025.

Access & Diversion: Stoneleigh Road, A452, Ashow Road, St Martins Road, Coventry Road, Stoneleigh Hill, Stoneleigh Road and vice versa.
Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302

WOOD END LANE, FILLONGLEY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To enable pole replacement works.
Order Commences: 22 October 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 22 October 2025.
Access & Diversion: Nuneaton Road, Coventry Road, Wood End Lane and vice versa.

Contractor: M J Quinn, Tel: 01543 547 118

D2096 HEATHER ROAD, BINLEY WOODS

Order Effect: Road closed between Oakdale Road and Birchwood Road.
Reason for Order: Footway reconstruction works, closed 0800-1700 hrs, weekdays only.
Order Commences: 20 October 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 21 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Oakdale Road, A428 Rugby Road, Birchwood Road and vice versa. Vehicular access & egress will be maintained where possible and safe to do so for businesses and residents only.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

LARCHFIELDS, WOLSTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: To safely enable works to lay new ducting.
Order Commences: 5 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 7 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: No diversion available.
Contractor: Core Highways, Tel: 03300 169 668.

HEATHER ROAD, BINLEY WOODS

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to repair/replace defective manhole frame and covers.
Order Commences: 4 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 4 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Ferndale Road, Rugby Road, Woodlands Road and vice versa.

Contractor: Customer Solutions Plus, Tel: 07918 298 599.

For all of the above temporary orders, pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

To report any problems with these works or for further details of our current & planned roadworks visit our website warwickshire.gov.uk/roadworksmap or call us 01926 412515.

S Duxbury, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 16 Oct 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Cosmin Bura trading as Globeline Logistics Ltd of 65 Cheryl Way, Rugby, CV23 0AX is applying for a licence to use Mitchell Potatoes Ltd, Boots Farm, Bourton on Dunsmore, Rugby, CV23 9QQ as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) that believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Warwickshire County Council

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Warwickshire County Council has made the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

D60720 CHURCH ROAD, CHESTERTON GREEN

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from The Old Gated Road to Windmill Hill Lane.
Reason for Order: Drainage and associated works, 09.30hrs-15.30hrs.
Order Commences: 24 October 2025 for up to 18 months.
Anticipated Completion: 24 October 2025.

Access & Diversion: The Old Gated Road, Banbury Road (Chesterton Hill), Fosse Way, Windmill Hill Lane and vice versa. Please be aware that The Old Gated Road has a cattle grid on the road.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

D5302 CURLIEU CLOSE, HAMPTON MAGNA

Order Effect: Road closed in its entirety from Arras Boulevard.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching works, closed 08.00hrs-16.00 hrs.
Order Commences: 23 October 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 24 October 2025.
Access & Diversion: No suitable diversion. Vehicular access & egress will be maintained where possible and safe to do so for businesses and residents only. Access/Egress to/from South View will also be restricted whilst works are in progress.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

Warwickshire County Council proposes to make the following Temporary Traffic Orders:

C35 HARDWICK ROAD, PRIORS MARSTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Welsh Road to Byfield Road.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 09.30hrs-15.30hrs.
Order Commences: 7 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 7 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Welsh Road, Southern Road, The Green, Main Road and vice versa. Limited access to Manor Farm Court.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

D24200 KEYS LANE, PRIORS MARSTON

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic from Shuckburgh Road to Hellidon Road.
Reason for Order: Carriageway patching and associated works, 08.00hrs-16.00hrs.
Order Commences: 7 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 7 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Shuckburgh Road, The Holloway, The Green, Hellidon Road, and vice versa.

Contractor: Balfour Beatty, Tel: 03452 415 302.

PARK LANE, HARBURY

Order Effect: Road closed to vehicular traffic.
Reason for Order: Works to install new water connection.
Order Commences: 1 November 2025 for up to 18 months.

Anticipated Completion: 1 November 2025.
Access & Diversion: Park Lane, Temple End, Harbury Lane, Chesterton Road, Plough Lane, Fosse Way, Southern Road, Upton Hill, Upton Road, Hall Lane, Crown Street, Vicarage Lane, South Parade and vice versa.

Contractor: Network Plus, Tel: 01332 820 920.

For all of the above temporary orders, pedestrian access to and egress from properties and land situated adjacent to the length of road to be closed will be maintained at all times. Vehicular access will be maintained where possible.

To report any problems with these works or for further details of our current & planned roadworks visit our website warwickshire.gov.uk/roadworksmap or call us 01926 412515.

S Duxbury, Director of Strategy, Planning & Governance, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL Date 16 Oct 2025

MICHAEL JOHN WINNER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 67 Tenynson Road Coventry, CV2 2SZ, who died on 11/08/2025, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 18/12/2025, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Lloyds Bank Plc, PO BOX 5005, LANCING, NN9 6AZ

IAN EDWARD HUMPHRIES (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 67 Tenynson Road Coventry, CV2 2SZ, who died on 20/06/2024, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 18/12/2025, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Ward & Rider, 2 Manor Yard, New Union Street, Coventry, CV1 2PF

PUBLIC NOTICES

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

PROPOSAL TO INCREASE CAPACITY TO 1400 PUPILS AND ESTABLISH RESOURCED PROVISION AT THE AVON VALLEY SCHOOL AND PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Warwickshire County Council intends to increase capacity and establish resourced provision at The Avon Valley School and Performing Arts College.

Name, address of proposer: Warwickshire County Council, Access to Education, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL

Name, address of school: The Avon Valley School and Performing Arts College, Newbold Road, Rugby, CV21 1EH

Proposal: To increase the capacity of The Avon Valley School from 1100 pupils to 1400 pupils and to establish resourced provision for 20 pupils. The full proposal and details of how to comment can be found at <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/schools/avon-valley-school>

Alternatively, copies of the proposal can be obtained by emailing schoolorganisation@warwickshire.gov.uk or writing to Education Sufficiency, Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RL. The deadline for comments is Friday 14th November 2025.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of application for the grant of a Premises Licence under Section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003

Notice is hereby given that Five Guys JV Ltd has applied to Coventry City Council for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of Premises to be known as Five Guys, The Arena Retail Park, Coventry, CV6 6AS. The proposed licensable activities and their hours are: Regulated Entertainment in the form of Films (indoors) and Recorded Music (indoors and outdoors) from 06.00 until 02.00 Mondays to Sundays, Late Night Refreshment from 23.00 until 05.00 Mondays to Sundays. Sale of Alcohol (for consumption on and off the premises) from 06.00 until 02.00 Mondays to Sundays, Opening Hours of 24hrs Mondays to Sundays. Any representations regarding the above-mentioned application must be received in writing by Licensing Authority, Coventry City Council, PO Box 7097, Coventry, CV5 9SL or via email to licensing@coventry.gov.uk no later than 6th November 2025 stating the grounds for representation. The register of Coventry City Council and the record of the application may be inspected at the address of the council, given above, during normal business hours or on the council's website - www.coventry.gov.uk

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. A person liable to an unlimited fine on conviction should such a false statement be made.

Poppleston Allen, 37 Stony Street, The Lace Market, Nottingham, NG1 1LS

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARLES TULLY (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 160 Deedmore Road, Coventry, CV2 2AA, who died on 09/07/2022, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 18/12/2025, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

David Paul Knight, The London Gazette (53281), PO Box 3584, Norwich NR7 7WD

PUBLIC NOTICES

Keeping you up to date with all the latest information on Planning Proposals, Traffic Notices, Goods Vehicle Operator Licences To Sell Alcohol, Probate Notices.....

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH RESOURCED PROVISION AT HOLY TRINITY COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Warwickshire County Council intends to establish educational provision for children with special educational needs in the form of resourced (specialist) provision at Holy Trinity CofE Primary School.

Name, address of proposer: Warwickshire County Council, Access to Education, Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL

Name, address of school: Holy Trinity CofE Primary School, Willows Drive North, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 9QN

Proposal: To establish resourced provision for up to 18 primary aged pupils diagnosed with social, emotional & mental health needs. The full proposal and details of how to comment can be found at <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/schools/resourced-provision-holy-trinity>

Alternatively, copies of the proposal can be obtained by emailing schoolorganisation@warwickshire.gov.uk or writing to Education Sufficiency, Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RL. The deadline for comments is 16 November 2025.

Classified

TELEPHONE 01527 588688 FACSIMILE 01527 584371

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Rugby Borough Council
Town and Country Planning
Act 1990 (as amended)**

**Application Number R25/0721
51, HILLMORTON ROAD, RUGBY,
CV22 5AE**
Partial retrospective application for the
demolition of and replacement of out-building
and amendments to boundary wall and dropped
kerbs.
**This development may affect a
Conservation Area**
Application Number R25/0747
**THE DOVECOTE, KINGS NEWNHAM
ROAD, KINGS NEWNHAM, RUGBY,
CV23 0JT**
Listed building consent for proposed
replacement windows.
**This development may affect a Listed
Building**
Application Number R25/0861
10, MARKET PLACE, RUGBY, CV21 3DU
Change of use from Sui Generis to Class E (e)
medical.
**This development may affect a
Conservation Area**
Application Number R25/0886
**46, BROCKHURST LANE, MONKS KIRBY,
RUGBY, CV23 0RA**
Erection of a lean-to roof canopy to the rear.
**This development may affect a
Conservation Area. This development may
affect a Public Right of Way**
Members of the public may inspect copies of the
application, the plans and documents submitted
with it online at:
www.planningportal.rugby.gov.uk or in an
electronic form at: Town Hall, Evraux Way,
Rugby CV21 2RR between the hours of 9.00 am
and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday until **07
November 2025**. Please note a planning officer
would not be present. If you wish to make an
appointment to discuss the application, please
contact the case officer.
Any person who wishes to make representation to
the above mentioned Council about the
applications should make them online -
www.planningportal.rugby.co.uk (search for
application number and select comment) - or in
writing by that date to The Chief Officer Growth
and Investment, Town Hall, Rugby, CV21 2RR.
If an application is determined by the Planning
Committee, members of the public may have
the opportunity to speak at the meeting. More
details about public speaking are available from
the Council or on-line at:
www.rugby.gov.uk/speakingatplanning
For householder or minor commercial
applications, in the event of an appeal against a
refusal of planning permission, dealt with on the
basis of representations in writing, any
representations made will be sent to the
Secretary of State, and there will be no further
opportunity to comment at the appeal stage.
**Nicola Smith
Chief Officer - Growth and Investment
MRTPI**

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SALES & WANTS

MISCELLANEOUS

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BEDS NEW Doubles £95 Singles £59 King size £159. Second hand doubles £49 Singles £29 Fridges £49 Freezers £59 Can deliver 07703 925662

SET of 14 LH Golf Clubs and Bag Good Condition - Ping, Taylor Made, Gallaway, King Cobra £175 ono (Whitnash) Tel: 07819015716

SMALL TV Oak Effect Corner Unit As New - Whitnash Area £50 ono Tel: 07879015716

M A H O G A N Y Sideboard 3 drawers, 3 cupboards 940H x 1270L x 480D Good Condition £100 ono (Whitnash) Tel: 07879015716

SAMSUNG Surround Sound Speaker Set (6 in total) - £60 ono (Whitnash) Tel: 07879015716

MOTORCYCLE Francis Barnett 1955 Villiers 8E Engine, 4 Speed. Good Condition £1, 890. Tel 0121 745 2224

DISLOCK with two keys £35 01564 772966

MISCELLANEOUS

A tub bath with chrome taps as new £50 a sink and pedestal with chrome taps £25 07719 695685

KENWOOD chef classic with all attachments as new £75.00 07747 929558

COFFEE Machine Nescafe dolce gusto with coffee pods £25 07747 929558

KIDNEY shaped dressing table with curtains and stool beautiful condition £75 07747 929558

SOFT dog bed, medium, cream fleece / brown faux suede, washable, zipped corners. £4. 07840 800965

SMALL Wedgewood blue plate with plate stand £10 - 07947 634608

MISCELLANEOUS

RIDING body protector, small adult / large child, blue washable outer. Crash helmet with black / green silk. £8 each. 07840 800965

DUBLIN navy / green check winter jods, size 12. £6. Regatta reversible navy gilet, zipped fleece / quilted. size 14. £6. 07840 800965

PRETTY cottagey floral curtains, lemon background, mauve / orange flowers, thick cotton, 34" dropx48" wide, pelmet, cushion cover £10. 0121 430 3880

SEWING Machine Frister & Rossman electronic 979 serviced £100 01527 878187

MISCELLANEOUS

DINNER Service Royal Worcester Evesham Vale design 8 setting plates, sides, desserts, cups, saucers £50 01527 871856

SKETCHERS Beige Ballet style flat size 5 UK Adult Never worn, still in box Paid £40 but would like at least £20 Brenda 07989153851

GLASS fronted Bookcase / display cabinet, sliding glass doors with small side cabinet 3 shelves in both sides - £35 07947 634608

2 Daily Telegraph Zero Gravity Garden Recliner Chairs (including carry bags) 1 Navy 1 Stone (Grey) £40.00 each 01905 769944

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Martial artist strikes gold at national competition

MARTIAL ARTS: A YOUNG athlete from Coventry won a gold medal competing at the British Taekwondo National Championships in Sheffield.

Renat Kurbanov triumphed in the child +48kg category to win a gold medal and become British champion.

The 10-year-old trains at Five Lions Taekwondo Academy in Coventry.

Renat's parents said: "We express our heartfelt gratitude to his coaches at Five Lions Taekwondo Club for their dedication and support in nurturing our son's growth."

"This achievement reflects Renat's hard work and determination, his coaches' tireless efforts and the encouragement and values fostered within the Coventry community."

"Renat has shown exceptional development not only in athletic ability but also in personal confidence and resilience."

"His success is a testament to the positive environment that encourages young people to pursue their passions."



Renat Kurbanov stands proudly with his gold medal. s

From left to right: Arianna Virik, Ria Prabhakar, Emily Peaford, Ellie Lichtenhein, Lauren Crump and Daisy Lee with coach John Watson at the back. Picture courtesy of England Golf.



Virik plays part as England thrash Ireland

GOLF: COVENTRY Hearsall Golf Club player Arianna Virik helped England Golf's under-16s storm to a 14-4 victory against Ireland.

Virik recovered from defeat in the foursomes to win her singles match in the annual international fixture held at Ballybunion Golf Club.

After the six foursomes matches, the two teams were tied at three-apiece.

However, England won 11 of the 12 singles matches to claim overall victory by a considerable margin.

England under-16 team captain and manager, Jamie O'Connor said: "There were a couple of key moments as George Whitehead and Aaron Moody crucially won

the 17th and 18th to win their foursomes match, while Frankie Morton and Albie Beeston won 16 and 17 to recover a half in their match."

"It was well poised and we knew that we'd have to perform well on day two to get the win, and it was a really strong performance to complete a big victory, with the girls winning 6-0, and the boys winning 5-1."

"It was a really experienced England team, and was probably the last cap for all the players as under-16s, so it was a really good test for the youngsters of how they control the controllables, and how to just stick in there and get the job done, as the weather was biblical."

"A big thanks to Ballybunion and Golf Ireland for arranging it. We look forward to the return fixture next year, where we'll be excited to have 12 fresh faces."

Bad weather saw the morning session of the first day cancelled.

The teams returned to the tees in the afternoon, playing in 40mph winds with gusts as high as 55mph.

At the end of the first day, the teams were level at three-all as Virik and playing partner Ria Prabhakar lost one down against Gemma McMeekin and Grace Dowdall in the foursomes.

However, Virik bounced back to beat Dowdall four-and-three in the singles as England romped to an emphatic victory.

First win of season for Cov as Maunder receives ban

RUGBY UNION: COVENTRY Rugby claimed a thrilling 35-30 victory against Bedford Blues to secure their first win of the new season.

Tries from Tom Bacon, Peter Sullivan, Morgan Strong and Josh Thomas sealed a bonus point win for Alex Rae's side at Butts Park Arena.

The result means Coventry sit ninth in the Champ Rugby table after two matches.

Coventry scored the game's first try after just nine minutes as Bacon touched down following a length-of-the-pitch counter attack after a Bedford overthrow at a lineout.

Bedford reduced the deficit later in the first half as former Coventry player Will Maisey kicked a penalty after the referee penalised Jack Shine for a knock-on.

However, Coventry restored their seven-point lead soon after as Thomas slotted a penalty between the sticks following sustained pressure on the Bedford line.

The visitors kicked a second penalty as Maisey added three points to the away side's tally after Coventry were penalised for obstruction.

And Bedford took the lead on 29 minutes when Oisín Heffernan crashed over to score the away side's first try.

Bedford struck again five minutes later as Nicholas Finch finished a slick passing move to put the visitors into an eight-point lead.

Coventry responded one minute before half time when Sullivan dotted down in the corner to close the gap to a single point at the break.

However, the home side lost scrum-half Sam Maunder for 20 minutes early in the second period following a head-on-head collision.

Despite playing with a man less, Coventry reclaimed the lead on 46 minutes as Strong collected Josh Barton's offload and powered over the line.

And Thomas touched down on 54 minutes to score Coventry's bonus point try only for Bedford to cross two minutes later as Dean Adamson scored a fine solo try.

Another Thomas penalty stretched Coventry's lead to seven points only for Rory Ward to dive over for Bedford.

However, Maisey could not add the extras to draw the game level before Thomas kicked a penalty to extend Coventry's lead and seal a hard-fought victory.

Coventry are next in action against Chinnor on Saturday, October 18 with kick-off at 3pm at the Rectory Pavilion.

MAUNDER BANNED

Coventry have confirmed Maunder has received a three-game suspension following his 20-minute red card for a dangerous tackle in the club's win against Bedford.

An independent disciplinary hearing determined Maunder should receive a three-game ban for the tackle.

The sanction will be reduced to two matches if Maunder successfully completes the World Rugby Coaching Intervention Programme (CIP).

Blaze beaten by Devils in Elite League opener



Blaze struggled in defeat against Sheffield in the Challenge Cup. Picture by Scott Wiggins.

ICE HOCKEY: COVENTRY Blaze made a losing start to the Elite League season after suffering a 3-0 defeat against Cardiff Devils.

Blaze began their league campaign with defeat at the Vindico Arena in a tight game as the home side scored two late goals to settle the contest.

Coventry then suffered a 5-1 home defeat against Sheffield Steelers in the Challenge Cup at the Skydome Arena.

Kevin Moore's side made the worst possible start to the Elite League season as Cardiff's Joey Martin struck at 3:46 to break the deadlock.

Martin reacted quickest to finish on the rebound after good work from Ryan Barrow and Evan Mosey.

Blaze thought they had drawn level later in the first period after the puck crossed the Cardiff goal line. However, the referee had already blown his whistle before Coventry struck.

And both teams failed to convert powerplay opportunities as Cardiff

took a narrow advantage into the second period.

Coventry enjoyed several spells of pressure in the middle period but could not find a way past Devils netminder Ben Bowns.

Blaze goaltender Mat Robson kept the visitors in the contest in the third period as he stood tall to deny Brett Perlini on a breakaway.

Cardiff almost sealed the points when Kohen Olishefski tipped Brandon Estes' initial shot onto the crossbar.

Coventry killed a late penalty before Moore pulled Robson for an extra skater.

However, a loose pass allowed Riley Brandt to finish into an empty net at 58:53 to double Cardiff's lead.

And Perlini completed the scoring at 59:26 with another empty net goal from distance.

Coventry then suffered a heavy home defeat against the Steelers in their penultimate group game in the Challenge Cup.

Sheffield's Clifford Pu scored a first period hat-trick to help the Steelers take control of the game inside the first quarter hour.

Both teams squandered early powerplay opportunities before Sheffield took the lead short-handed at 9:17 as Pu broke free and finished neatly past Robson.

And Pu struck again at 11:29 as he finished a two-on-one break from Mikko Juusola's cross-ice pass.

Pu completed his hat-trick at 12:35 - scoring three goals in the space of just over three minutes - to leave the home side stunned.

Blaze had a goal ruled out early in the second period with Grant Mismash's effort chalked off for goaltender interference.

And the Steelers extended their lead on the powerplay at 27:54 as Evan Jasper punished Blaze who failed to convert four earlier chances with a man advantage.

Coventry eventually found the net at 39:47 when Mismash finished from Alessio Luciani and Sam Ruffin's assist.

A late flashpoint saw Sheffield's Stephen Harper assessed for a five-minute major penalty and game misconduct for high-sticking following a clash with David Clements.

However, Blaze again failed to capitalise on the man advantage before Mitchell Balmas completed the scoring for the Steelers at 59:47 on the powerplay.

Coventry are next in action against Sheffield on Saturday, October 18 with the face-off at 7pm at the Skydome.

And Blaze then entertain Glasgow Clan on Sunday, October 19 with the face-off at 5:30pm at the Skydome.

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O'Connor ends season with title

CYCLING: ROB O'Connor, from Rugby, won another national title at the British Masters Cycle Racing Circuit Championships in Colchester, Essex.

Riding on the one-mile purpose-built cycle circuit for the first time, O'Connor secured a fourth national title of the season.

After one hour and three laps of racing, O'Connor sprinted to victory over the final 300 metres.

O'Connor then raced in the John Hinksman Memorial event at Darley Moor Sports Centre near Ashbourne in Derbyshire.

The race, O'Connor's final event of the year, combined younger age categories with older ones over a one and a half mile circuit.

And the race also featured 1990s National Circuit champion and former professional rider David Miller.

O'Connor formed part of a seven-rider breakaway group early on along with Miller.

The Rugby rider tried to split the group with 10



Rob O'Connor ended the season on a high. Picture by Claire Huxford.

laps to go only for the group to remain intact.

Despite a late charge from another rider and Miller, O'Connor lunged his bike towards the line in a seven-man sprint finish to claim his 15th race win of the season.

As the overall race winner, O'Connor claimed the John Hinksman Trophy.

Valley win at Sutton Coldfield as Borough frustrated by Bourne

FOOTBALL: RUGBY Town stretched their unbeaten run to three matches with an impressive 3-0 victory away at Sutton Coldfield Town in midweek.

Valley led by two goals at the break courtesy of strikes from Harrison Nee and Sam Tye at Coles Lane.

And an own goal from Tom Hurley completed the scoring as Rugby claimed their biggest league win of the season so far.

The result means Valley sit 17th in the Northern Premier League Midlands table, two points clear of the relegation zone.

Rugby broke the deadlock on 16 minutes when Nee's low finish beat James Wren in the Sutton goal from Caine Elliott's through ball.

The visitors hit the post twice in quick succession soon after as both Tye and

Josh Thomas struck the woodwork.

And the chances continued to flow as Tye saw a close-range header saved by Wren before Nathan Kabeya flashed a shot narrowly wide.

And Valley eventually doubled their lead on 37 minutes as Tye finished on the rebound after Cairo Taylor's flick from Nee's cross came back off the post.

More chances came and went for the away side before Hurley put through his own net on 68 minutes as he inadvertently turned Taylor's low cross from the right past Wren in the Sutton goal.

Rugby are next in action against Coventry Sphinx on Saturday, October 18 with kick-off at 3pm at Butlin Road.

Elsewhere, Rugby Borough missed the chance to move top of the table following

a 1-1 draw against Bourne Town.

After a goalless first period, Brad Marshall put the visitors ahead only for Tendai Daire to draw the home side level moments later at Kilsby Lane.

The result means Rugby sit fifth in the Northern Premier League Midlands table, four points behind leaders Belper Town.

Bourne broke the deadlock on 71 minutes when a ball into the box from the right reached the back post with Marshall on hand to nod the ball into the net from the left edge of the six-yard box.

However, Borough responded two minutes later as Daire headed in a cross from the right from eight-yards out.

Borough travel to Mickleover on Saturday, October 18 with kick-off at 3pm at the Don Amott Arena.

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